



Town of Berwyn Heights response to Coronavirus-COVID-19

For public release - Updated August 26, 2020

Due to ongoing concerns about the possible spread of the Coronavirus (COVID19), the Berwyn Heights Town Council and staff have taken the following actions to protect the health and safety of our residents and staff:

State of Emergency declared: An amended local State of Emergency was issued and is effective as of March 13, 2020 at 5 p.m. The order will remain in effect until the State of Maryland's State of Emergency is lifted. At a minimum, the following contingencies will be in place in the Town of Berwyn Heights. A local declaration of a state of emergency allows the Town to access resources from other jurisdictions and the State of Maryland, if the need arises. The state of emergency declaration also allows the Town Council to suspend the Council Rules and Ordinances as deemed in the best interest of the operations of the Town in order to protect the health and safety of its residents and employees.

Senior Center

Pursuant to the State of Maryland State of Emergency declaration, the Berwyn Heights Senior Center is closed until further notice.

Events

All in-person events, public and private, scheduled for Town Center and any other town-owned property have been canceled until further notice.

Town organization and committee meetings

All in-person meetings of Town organizations and committees are canceled until further notice.

Pop's Park

The park is open for use following social distancing guidelines and signs.

Town Hall and Police Department Administrative offices

The Berwyn Heights Town Hall and the Police Department administrative offices will remain active, but certain services have been suspended or will not be offered in person. Residents are encouraged to, whenever possible, access services electronically, through the U. S. mail or via telephone. See details and phone numbers below.

Town Hall

General inquiries: In order to limit in-person contact with town staff, please refrain from coming to Town Hall as much as possible. General inquiries or concerns should be made over the phone by calling (301) 474-5000.

Notary services: All notary services provided at Town Hall have been suspended until further notice.

Police Department

Calls for service: The Police Department will continue to answer calls for service and conduct patrols as normal, however, on certain calls, the police dispatcher, or the police officers may ask health-related screening questions related to flu-like symptoms and recent travel. Some, non-emergency report calls that can be handled over the phone may be handled in that manner by officers. For any questions or concerns, please call our administrative number at (301) 474-6554 or the non-emergency at (301) 352-1200. For emergencies, please dial 9-1-1.

Health screening of visitors:

For the safety of everyone within our Police Department administrative offices, all staff, as well as police officers, and visitors must have their temperatures checked prior to being granted access to enter the building. Any person registering a temperature of 100 degrees or higher, will be denied access to the building. facility. Upon registering a temperature at or above 100 degrees, a second scan will be performed. If the second scan also registers 100 degrees or higher, the person will be advised that they are denied access to enter. This scan is mandatory and cannot be refused for health and safety reasons. *Face mask must be worn, and Social Distancing will be enforced. Stay approximately six feet away or more from others—no more than two people in the police vestibule at any time. For the safety to our officers and the public, the vestibule is equipped with UVC lights and used to sanitize the area after each visit from the public.*

Parking tickets:

Parking citations can be made at the police station in person with cash, money order, check, and or credit card.

Notary services:

Notary services for emergency and exigent circumstances such as powers-of- attorney and anything related to the Coronavirus-COVID-19 will be provided. Please call (301) 474-6554 to schedule an appointment. All other notary services will be suspended until the State of Emergency is lifted.

Code Compliance

For the safety of our Town residents, visitors, and staff alike the Code Compliance Office remains closed for walk-in visitation. For all inquiries and concerns, please call our office at 301-513-9331 or email us at code@berwynheightsmd.gov.

All permit and rental applications are still being accepted electronically via email to zbell@berwynheightsmd.gov or through the U. S. mail only. Payments are acceptable in the form of check only through the U.S. mail, made payable to "Town of Berwyn Heights". Unfortunately, we cannot accept credit card payments though the internet or over the phone. All rental permit applications and payments are due as scheduled with no change in submission deadlines. All rental inspections are postponed until further notice. The Code Compliance Department staff will contact property owners to schedule inspections when they resume.

Town Council Meetings

No in-person Town Council meetings will be held until the State of Emergency is lifted. All meetings will be attended by the Town Council and staff electronically. Meetings will be broadcast via the town cable channel. Information on how to join these meetings will be posted on the agenda for each meeting, as appropriate. Staff will continue to monitor guidance provided by the State and will make timely recommendations if any further changes become necessary.

Trash collection and other Department of Public Works services

We will continue to provide services as normally scheduled. For the health and safety of our crew, residents are asked to limit direct in-person contact with our staff. The administrative office is working remotely so special requests or needs can be handled faster by sending an email to rjones@berwynheightsmd.gov. We are short-staffed and we may not always pick up your trash/yard waste/recycling as early as we did before so please be patient with us.

Important Town of Berwyn Heights phone numbers

Town Hall: (301) 474-5000

Police Department non-emergency communications: (301) 352-1200

Police Department administrative inquiries: (301) 474-6554

Emergencies: Dial 9-1-1

For your health and safety

Residents are encouraged to follow protocols put out by the Prince George's County and Maryland Departments of Health to avoid exposure to Coronavirus (COVID19). If you have questions or concerns about the Coronavirus, please call the **Prince George's County Coronavirus Hotline at (301) 883-6627**.